Fruit and Vegetable Outlets of Mother Dairy

3756. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and locations of fruit and vegetable outlets/extension counters opened by the Mother Dairy (National Dairy Development Board) in Delhi during January and February, 1997;

(b) the location of such outlets/extension counters where weighing machines have been sent without printers; and

(c) the time by which the printers are likely to be provided at such outlets/extension counters by the Mother Dairy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Seven fruit and vegetable outlets were opened in Delhi during January '97 which are as under :—

Outlet No.	Location
630	Block-G, Vikaspuri.
633	Block A-1, Pankha Road, Janakpuri.
699	Sector 18, Rohini.
073	Block JKL, Sarita Vihar.
079	M.B. Road, Tigri.
632	Block C2-C, Janakpuri.
629	Jupiter Apartments, Vikaspuri.

(b) All the above 7 outlets have been provided weighing machines with printers.

(c) Does not arise in view of answer to (b) above.

Slashing of Assistance for North-Eastern States

3757. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to slash the assistance to the North-Eastern States including Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to deduct amount from the Plan outlay pertaining to the North-Eastern States with arrears of Rs. 220.45 crore;

(d) if so, the total amount owed by the North-Eastern States; and

(e) whether any further time is likely to be given to clear their arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The Central assistance for State Plans is given as 90% grant and 10% loan to NE States. In addition, these States also get small savings loans. The loans have to be repaid to the Government of India. The total loans outstanding as on 1.4.1996 are Rs. 4780.87 crores of which Rs. 892.62 crores is due during 1996-97. These loans are repaid by the States in the normal course. In some cases the loans are adjusted against release of Central assistance. The Government of India have also recently approved a proposal for recovery of all outstanding dues of Central Public Sector Undertakings from State Electricity Boards by appropriation from the Plan assistance due to the respective States in suitable instalments to be decided in consultation with the State Governments.

The outstanding dues on this account to be recovered from the North-Eastern States are Rs. 356.66 crore (as on 31.12.1996) in respect of the Ministry of Power and Rs. 0.27 crore (as on 30.11.1996) in respect of the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Coal.

Bhutanese Refugees

3758. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the arrest of hundreds of Bhutanese refugees seeking to return to their respective homes by the West Bengal Police, in the border area of Jalpaiguri District and their forcible deportation to Nepal;

(b) whether the Central Government had asked a report from the Government of West Bengal in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to stop such practice in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Urea

3759. SHRI K. PRADHANI :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the production of urea during Eighth Five Year Plan and actual production achieved;